

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2002-18

September 24, 2002

SUBJECT: *Phytophthora ramorum*, Sudden Oak Death (SOD) Expansion of Listed Hosts—California and Oregon

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On February 14, 2002, APHIS published an interim rule (7 CFR 301.92) in the Federal Register for SOD. The rule regulates the artificial spread of this disease-causing organism from moving out of the counties where the disease is established. As reported in DA-2002-17 dated September 6, 2002, we learned earlier this month that certain plant parts of additional hosts require regulating in order to prevent artificial spread of the disease.

On September 4, researchers announced that the disease has been found associated with parts of two important tree species growing in the currently regulated areas--coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *menziesii*). They reported finding the disease limited to sprouts associated with basal trunks or burls, small branches, and leaves (needles).

As a result, we officially announced our regulation of the above listed plant parts via DA-2002-17. Attached are additional details explaining how we are regulating coast redwood and Douglas fir nursery stock, cut Christmas trees, forest stock, greenery, wreaths, and garlands.

This additional information will be reflected by regulatory changes that will be published in the Federal Register for public comment in accordance with the provisions of the Administrative Procedures Act.

/s/ Richard L. Dunkle

Richard L. Dunkle
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment

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Additions to the *Phytophthora ramorum* regulations (7 CFR 301.92) for new hosts, coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*) and Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii* var. *menziesii*) effective September 5, 2002.

Nursery stock

- Nursery Stock of these are regulated in the same manner as other host nursery stock in the established regulations.
(Includes but is not limited to 319.92-2(a)(1) Regulated and restricted articles; 310.92-4 Conditions governing the interstate movement of regulated an restricted articles from quarantined areas; 301.92-5(a)(iv)(A) Issuance and cancellation of certificates; 301.92-11(a) Inspection and sampling protocol).

Cut Christmas trees (New)

- Cut Christmas trees of these grown in plantations under a State Department of Agriculture inspection program may be shipped interstate under the same conditions already established in the regulations for host nursery stock.
(Includes but is not limited to 319.92-2(a)(1) Regulated and restricted articles; 310.92-4 Conditions governing the interstate movement of regulated an restricted articles from quarantined areas; 301.92-5(a)(iv)(A) Issuance and cancellation of certificates; 301.92-11(a) Inspection and sampling protocol).

Forest stock

- Sprouts associated with basal trunks or burls
 - Small branches (less than one inch in diameter)
 - Leaves (needles)
- Of these new hosts are restricted articles as are other host fo rest stock in the established regulations.
(Includes but is not limited to 319.92-2(b)(1) Regulated and restricted articles; 301-92-4 Conditions governing the interstate movement of regulated an restricted articles from quarantined areas).

Greenery, garlands, and wreaths

- Sprouts associated with basal trunks or burls
 - Small branches (less than one inch in diameter)
 - Leaves (needles)
- Of these new hosts are restricted articles as are other host greenery, garlands, and wreaths in the established regulations, unless treated in accordance with the established regulations.
(Includes but is not limited to 301.92-5(a)(iv)(A) Issuance and cancellation of certificates; 301.92-10(b) Treatments).

Logs, lumber and other wood and wood products

- No special conditions unless regulated elsewhere in the regulations.

Wood chips and bark mulch

- No special conditions unless regulated elsewhere in the regulations.

Seeds, nuts, and fruits

- No special conditions unless regulated elsewhere in the regulations.

These actions are authorized by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, Section 412(a), which authorizes the Secretary to prohibit or restrict or regulate the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article if the Secretary determines these measures are necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States. These actions are also authorized by 7 CFR 301.92-2(b)(2).